

July 9, 1965

Memorandum

ARA / CCA - MR. STEVENSON

ARA - George Lister

Visit of Cuban Exile Victor Espinosa

At request of friend, Valmore Acevedo, Venezuelan Christian ~~fellow~~, Democratic friend, LISTER agreed to meet Espinosa.

Espinosa statements & summary

- (1) Opposed BATISTA, opposes Castro
Not a member of "March 13th Movement,
but close to many of its leaders, including Culebras.
- (2) Trained by CIA in Sousseine and Guatemala
sent to Cuba prior to Bay of Pigs
- Plans to become US citizen in ~~Aug~~, Aug 65.
- (3) ^{not fully known if this is true} In early 1965, Espinosa received request from one of his reliable Cuban contacts in Europe asking that he come quickly. Espinosa went to ~~Europe~~ Miami, obtained false Cuban papers, and went to Paris. In the presence of the Cuban Amb to France, met one of Castro's "top security" men, who had come to Paris for that purpose.

(2) During ^{various} meetings in France, & Spain (where Espinosa entered allegedly) Espinosa was informed that there is a plan to overthrow the Castro regime and kill Castro & some of his main leaders.

The plot is led by Cubela and some of the March 13 movement plus (writer believes some military officers.)

"They must move more quickly because more and more people learning of the plot and thus growing risk of exposures.

They are anxious to have some coordination or at least consultation with responsible Americans. They ~~feel~~ are not confident that they could win an all out fight against Castro forces, thinking more in terms of taking control for a few hours, killing Castro & his most effective men. They must what of anything the Americans might do to help when the coup is attempted. They also worked to alert the US Gov't as to what was being planned.

The Cubans might have turned to Eail Williamson, CIA Madrid, but believe him to be unreliable as Cuban girl sent Madrid some time ago by Castro & fooled Williamson. He arranged for her to work with International Rescue Committee. She returned to Madrid w/ plans of plot.

Plotters asked Espinosa to go between with reliable American officials.

"Top security" man released to Havana while one repres. of plotters waited in Spain for answer.

Espinosa returned to N.Y. Called O'Brien of FBI and asked to be put in touch with several and reliable men from CIA.

Espinosa told Story to "H.A." of CIA. Espinosa believes H.A. or someone else went to Spain to check Story.